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Conference Abstract

Creating and Maintaining TDWG Vocabularies using Spreadsheets

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Abstract

Because TDWG vocabularies change and grow as they are developed by the community, it is nearly impossible to document their version history and generate both machine and human readable documentation by manual editing of multiple documents in several formats. In this talk, I will provide an overview of the workflow that has been established to maintain vocabularies in accordance with the TDWG Standards Documentation and Vocabulary Maintenance specifications. I will show how vocabulary creators and maintainers can use simple CSV spreadsheets to create new vocabularies or to update existing ones. I will also provide an overview of the Python scripts that TDWG infrastructure maintainers use to process those simple spreadsheets to turn them into the authoritative files in TDWG's rs.tdwg.org GitHub repository, which serves as the data source for both machine readable serializations of the vocabularies and human readable standards documents.

Keywords

standards, metadata

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